

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-22 will remain pending. Claims 1 and 21 are independent claims.

The specification has been amended to correct a typographical error that was included in the amendment filed June 8, 2006.

Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Consideration Of Information Disclosure Statements

Applicants express appreciation for the inclusion with the Office Action of an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449, whereby the Examiner's consideration of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed June 8, 2006 is of record.

Claim Of Priority

Applicants once again request that the Examiner acknowledge Applicants' claim of foreign priority as well as receipt of the certified copies of Japanese Application Nos. 2003-019475 and 2003-136496 concurrently filed with the application on November 24, 2003.

Restriction Requirement

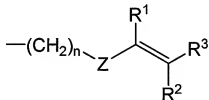
Applicants' election of Group III, claims 21 and 22 with traverse, has been confirmed with claims 1-20 being held to be withdrawn from consideration there being no allowable generic or linking claim. The requirement has been made Final.

In response, Applicants are permitting non-elected claims 1, 19 and 20 to remain pending subject to possible rejoinder.

Response To Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 112, First Paragraph

Claims 2-18, 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement with it being alleged that amended claim 21 contains the limitation “Z is a para- or meta phenylene” and the specification only has support for para- or meta- ethenylbenzyl, not the broader para- or meta- phenylene, and therefore the limitation is asserted to constitute new matter.

In response, Applicants note that independent claim 21, includes amongst other recitations included therein, a terminal group of the polyethylene ether represented by

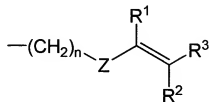


Moreover, independent claim 21 recites that when Z is a para- or meta-phenylene group, n is 1.

Thus, as defined in claim 21, when Z is a para- or meta-phenylene group and n is 1, the formula $\text{---CH}_2\text{---Z---}$, corresponds to a para- or meta-benzyl group, which forms a terminal group named as the para- or meta-ethenylbenzyl group when the benzyl group binds to an ethenyl group, i.e., $\text{---C}(\text{R}_1)=\text{CR}_2(\text{R}_3)$.

This feature included in Applicants' independent claim 21, and the claims dependent therefrom, is supported by Applicants' originally filed application, including the disclosure at page 9, lines 20-24, of Applicants' originally filed specification (with typographical corrections made in the Amendment filed June 8, 2006), in which the above-noted terminal structure of the polyphenylene ether is described as follows:

In the following partial structure of PPE (I), it is preferable that Z is a phenylene group and n is 1 (i.e., benzyl derivative), or that Z is an oxygen atom and n is 2, more preferably a *p*-ethenylbenzyl, *m*-ethenylbenzyl, or ethenyloxyethyl group.



Accordingly, the claimed subject matter recited in independent claim 21 and the claims dependent therefrom is fully supported by Applicants' originally filed application, and does not constitute new matter. Thus, the rejection should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

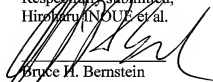
In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections of record, and allow each of the pending claims.

Applicants therefore respectfully request that an early indication of allowance of the application be indicated by the mailing of the Notices of Allowance and Allowability.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

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